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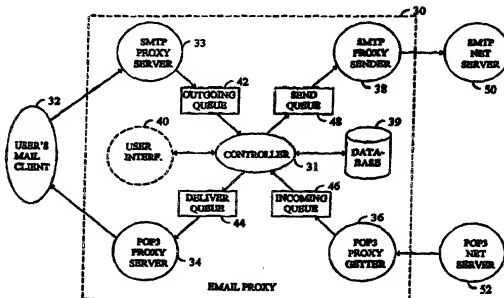
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(54) Title: AN EXTENSIBLE PROXY FRAMEWORK FOR E-MAIL AGENTS



(57) Abstract

A system for processing electronic messages comprises a communications port for exchanging electronic messages with an electronic mail network. The system also includes an electronic mail client and a proxy application resident in a memory. The proxy application has a configurable controller specifying a manner of processing electronic messages received from the electronic mail client and the communications port. A processor within the system, coupled to the communications port and the memory, executes the proxy application to process the electronic messages received from the electronic mail client and the communications port in accordance with a configuration of the controller.